

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Blendon Township Board of Trustees Meeting

Meeting

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC., FORM NO. 10148

Held October 16

20 24

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairperson Heichel. She welcomed everyone in attendance.

Trustee Heichel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present

Chair Heichel, Vice-Chair Shinaberry, Trustee Ciamacco.

Also in attendance were John Belford, Police Chief; Matt Newman, Service Department; Pat Myers, Administrator; and Brian Miller, Westerville Fire Chief.

Public Comment

Time was permitted for meeting attendees to make comments.

Trustee Comments

Trustee Ciamacco— Trustee Ciamacco received a few calls and emails from residents who did not fully understand the SOPEC aggregation on the ballot (Issue #23 for electric and Issue #24 for gas). While campaigning, she walked on every street in the township and was fortunate enough to talk to residents from all areas of our township. She heard many consistent concerns about high gas, electric, and water bills. In looking for alternate solutions that might help our residents lower their utility costs, she came across utility aggregators named NOPEC & SOPEC. She met with both and brought this up at a number of the township meetings. Both Aggregators spoke at our township meetings to explain, in detail, what their companies do and how they can provide significant savings to the township residents. This initiative, which began in late April of this year, is being presented to save our residents money on their gas and electric bills. There is power in numbers. Should the issues pass, residents will not be required to switch. If any residents are already in agreement with a different supplier, they will not be included in these programs since the township is an "Opt-out" program like many other townships such as Genoa and Orange Townships. If you are not interested in the cost savings or being in an aggregation, you can "opt-out."

SOPEC has been sending out informational materials to our residents and has a dedicated landing page on their website to provide education for the two aggregation issues on the ballot in Blendon Township. Their website is www.sopec-oh.gov/vote-blendon. They said they are happy to answer any questions our residents may have. The trustees continue looking for options to help the residents save money.

Trustee Shinaberry— Trustee Shinaberry had no comments.

Trustee Heichel— Trustee Heichel had no comments.

Fiscal Officer Report -Introduced by Chairperson Heichel

Minutes—Trustee Heichel asked the other Trustees if they had reviewed the Minutes from the October 2, 2024, meeting. Trustee Shinaberry made a motion to approve the Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes on October 2, 2024. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Approval of Purchase Orders—Trustee Heichel asked the other Trustees if they had reviewed the Purchase Orders presented. Trustee Shinaberry moved to approve Purchase Orders as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Bills—Trustee Heichel asked the other Trustees if they had reviewed the bills presented. Trustee Shinaberry made a motion to approve the bills. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Bank Reconciliations for August 2024— Trustee Heichel asked the other Trustees if they had reviewed the bank reconciliations for August 2024. Trustee Heichel moved to approve as presented. Trustee Shinaberry seconded. All voted yes.

Supplemental Appropriations— Trustee Shinaberry moved to approve supplemental appropriations in the amount of \$3,664.50 to pay Franklin County Prosecutor 25% of forfeited funds from a total of \$14,450.00 from state forfeiture revenue as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Trustee Shinaberry moved to approve supplemental appropriations for \$5,000.00 from account 1000-120-500-9200 to account 1000-199-9200 to pay JEDZ for light pole repair on Route 3 as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Resolution 2024-34 Acceptance of the amounts and rates from the County Auditor— Trustee Shinaberry moved to approve Resolution 2024-34 accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the budget commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

Administration

Cell Tower Payment—Administrator Myers asked the Board to accept a check in the amount of \$6,000.00 as an initial good faith, non-refundable payment from Crown Castle for the cell tower agreement. Trustee Shinaberry moved to accept the check as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

AED in parks discussion— Administrator Myers discussed an update regarding House Bill 47, which was discussed at the previous meeting. He worked with legal counsel to get their opinion on where they had to go and if they needed to be in all the parks. They found that Ridgewood Park was the only place they would need to have an AED. He is working with CINTAS to add an AED to the account, which will be \$109.00/month. Discussion: Trustee Ciamacco asked about required maintenance and whether anyone who uses the AED must be certified. Administrator Myers clarified that no certification is needed to use them, and there is a monthly maintenance program through CINTAS where they will be serviced. He also explained that they would replace the first one if the AED was stolen. He is working on getting an answer on what happens if it is stolen more than once.

Trustee Shinaberry stated that she and Trustee Heichel attended the township-sponsored CPR training last week and also went through AED training. She stated that it was very easy and that it walks you through the steps.

AEP street light discussion— Administrator Myers discussed an update regarding the 23 AEP street lights that needed to be repaired recently. He is in contact with AEP to get the rest of the lights repaired, with 12 being fixed. He has heard from one resident that one out light has been fixed. He ensured they were getting fixed and that the 3rd shift Sergeant kept a spreadsheet to monitor the progress. Administrator Myers encouraged the public to let him know if there were further issues.

Human Resources

Administrator Myers stated that he has an applicant coming in for the Bus Driver position. There will be also be a special meeting on 10/18 at 10:00 AM for the Board to interview candidates for the Senior Center Director position.

Maintenance/B&G/Parks/Cemetery

Matt Newman stated that the Fall Community Clean-Up weekend went well. He also asked the Board to accept \$721.00 in donations from the Fall Community Clean Up. Trustee Shinaberry moved to accept the donation as presented. Trustee Ciamacco seconded. All voted yes.

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Police

Chief Belford stated that Blendon Township Police will host a Drug Take-Back Day on 10/26 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in conjunction with the DEA.

Fire

Chief Miller reminded everyone to open the fireplace chimney flue if it was shut for the summer. He said to burn dry, seasoned wood instead of green wood, which causes soot and smoke. He also said it is a good time to get your furnace checked, replace furnace filters, and check carbon monoxide detectors. Lastly, he explained the importance of space heater safety by staying in the room while using it and giving it 3 feet of space all the way around.

Trustee Shinaberry & Heichel thanked the Fire Department for hosting their open house, which they both attended. Trustee Heichel discussed the CPR/AED training, which was led by Mr. Sanders, who is a part of Chief Miller's department, stating it was a great training class.

Announcements

Wednesday, October 30, 2024, will be the next Board of Trustees Meeting at 6:30 PM at the same location, 6330 Hempstead Rd., Westerville, Ohio, and live streamed on YouTube.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, Trustee Shinaberry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM. Trustee Ciamacco seconded the motion.

Approved by:



Jan Heichel, Chairperson

Approved by:



Joann Bury, Fiscal Officer